—Apart from the destruction of rich forests a number of religious monuments and holy shrines will be submerged.

—Introduction of irrigation in black cotton soil areas will only create problems of water logging, salinity and increased incidence of water borne diseases; and

—Reservoir Induced Seismicity will introduce an element of danger in the lives of the largely tribal population whose social fabric is being destroyed.

(c) and (d) The project authorities are in touch with the Non-Government Organisations, social organisations and other concerned agencies so that their genuine concerns are properly provided for.

The Narmada Control Authority has been modified to include Union Secretaries of Environment & Forests and Welfare along with Chief Secretaries of the concerned States to enable decision making at the highest administrative level.

Two Sub-Committees on environment and rehabilitation have been set up by the Narmada Control Authority under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Environment & Forests) and Secretary (Rehabilitation) respectively to formulate realistic Environment Management and Rehabilitation Master Plans.

दिल्ली में होम गार्डों के लिए वर्दियां

820. **श्री सुनील कुमार पटनायक** : क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली में होम गार्डों की भर्ती के लिए आवेदकों को अपने वेतन से नई वर्दियां खरीदनी होती हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो क्या सरकार किसी गुप्त एजेंसी से इस मामले की छान-बीन कराने का विचार रखती है ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ङ) क्या यह भी सच है कि उच्चतर अधिकारी सरकार से उक्त वर्दियों की राशि का दावा करके मांग करते रहे हैं ;

(च) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार इस प्रथा को रोकने के लिए कोई कार्यवाही करने का विचार रखती है ; और

(छ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री संतोष मोहन देव) : (क) जी नहीं श्रीमान । निर्धारित मानदण्ड के अनुसार होमगार्ड के स्वयंसेवक निःशुल्क वर्दी प्राप्त करने के हकदार है ।

(ख) से (छ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Checking illegal trafficking from Pakistan

821. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, keeping in view the large quantity of narcotic drugs and arms seized by the Indian Border Security Forces during the last few months, Government have considered desirability of holding an immediate discussion with their counterparts in Pakistan in order to work out and implement a joint action plan to check the illegal trafficking from Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken in this regard; and

(c) what is the response of the Pakistan Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC

GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) During the Indo-Pak meeting at Home Secretary level in May, 1988, both the countries agreed to take concrete measures to check drug trafficking, smuggling, illegal border crossings etc. along Indo-Pak border. These measures include regular joint action between the border security forces of both countries. They also agreed to regular exchange of information between the two countries, as well as to provide mutual assistance in criminal investigation in matters relating to drug trafficking and smuggling. No plan for joint action has been made so far. Meanwhile some interim measures such as holding of monthly meetings, flag meetings etc. have been agreed upon.

Setting up of a National Technology Mission to reclaim Wastelands

822. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH:
DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a National Technology Mission for reclamation of wastelands;

(b) if so, how the mission will interact with the National Wastelands Development Board; and

(c) whether wetlands as distinct from wastelands would also be included in the Technology Mission and whether such wetlands in the country have been identified?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) to (c) The question whether a Technology Mission for the reclamation of the wastelands should be set up and if so, what should be its scope and coverage is under evtmination and a final decision thereon is yet to be taken.

Landless agricultural labourers covered by the Group Insurance Scheme

823. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the number of landless agricultural labourers in the country, State-wise and the number of those covered by the Group Insurance Scheme in each State as on 31st August, 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): The number of landless agricultural labourers in the country covered by the Group Insurance Scheme operating from 15th August, 1987 is roughly estimated to be 3 crores. It is not possible to give correctly state-wise estimated figures.

Memorandum submitted to P.M. by Indian National Bank Officers' Congress

824. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that detailed memorandum has been submitted to the Prime Minister by the Indian National Bank Officers' Congress enlisting their grievances about the victimisation meted out to the office bearers of INTUC led Unions/Associations by the Managements of State Bank of India and nationalised banks; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government to stop such harassment and victimisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF